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Worldwide Report

**TELECOMMUNICATIONS POLICY,
RESEARCH, AND DEVELOPMENT**

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7 October 1985

WORLDWIDE REPORT
TELECOMMUNICATIONS POLICY, RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

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WORLDWIDE AFFAIRS

ARUSHA DECLARATION ON TELECOMMUNICATIONS PUBLISHED

Geneva ITU TELECOMMUNICATIONS JOURNAL Aug 85 pp 441-443

[Text]

1. The First World Telecommunications Development Conference was held in Arusha from 27 to 30 May 1985. Delegations from 93 Member countries of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), headed by Ministers or senior officials, and representatives from many international and regional organizations participated in the Conference. The purpose of the Conference was to bring together the Members of the Union, preferably at ministerial level, so as to study and exchange views on the many aspects of the Report of the Independent Commission for World Wide Telecommunications Development* that have national government policy implications.
2. The Conference, inaugurated by H.E. Ali Hassan Mwinyi, the Vice-President of the United Republic of Tanzania and President of Zanzibar, was chaired by H.E. Mr John S. Malecela, Minister of Communications and Works, Government of the United Republic of Tanzania. Following an opening statement by Mr R. E. Butler, Secretary-General of the ITU, the keynote address was delivered by Sir Donald Maitland, Chairman of the Independent Commission for World Wide Telecommunications Development. Many ministers and representatives of government and international organizations addressed the Conference, expressing their support and commitment to the development of telecommunications on a world-wide basis.
3. The Conference appreciated the initiatives taken by the ITU and the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania for convening it at this opportune time. While considering the Report of the Independent Commission, the Conference discussed a range of issues relevant to the development of telecommunications, particularly in the developing regions of the world.
4. The Conference noted with satisfaction the increasing measure of recognition being extended the world over to the contribution of telecommunications to the process of development and its crucial, catalytic role, particularly in developing countries for achieving rapid

* See paragraph 5.

social, economic and cultural progress. This is recognized by the United Nations Proclamation of the Transport and Communications Decade for Africa, 1978-1987, World Communications Year 1983: Development of Communications Infrastructures, and the Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific and West Asia, 1985-1994. The Conference specially highlighted the role of telecommunications as an important instrument for bringing together peoples from the different parts of the world and as a factor for peace and prosperity.

The Conference noted:

- a) the spectacular strides taken by telecommunications technology and the pivotal role played by it in various facets of human activity;
- b) the poor state of telecommunication facilities in most developing countries and even more so in the least developed countries;
- c) the serious and worsening imbalance in the availability of telecommunication technology and services, between the developed and developing countries;
- d) the imperative and immediate need to improve this situation in order that all countries may benefit from telecommunications and become equal partners in progress;
- e) the necessity to achieve this goal through a range of actions including co-operative endeavours of both the developed and the developing countries.

5. The Conference recalled that the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference, Nairobi, 1982, had, *inter alia*, included specific provisions concerning the supportive role of the Union for the realization of telecommunication development including the promotion and offering of co-operation and assistance to developing countries as one of the purposes of the Union and had decided, under its Resolution 20, to set up the Independent Commission with the following mandate:

"to examine the totality of existing and possible future relationships between countries in the field of telecommunications involving technical co-operation and a transfer of resources in order to identify the most successful methods of such transfer;

to recommend a range of methods including novel ones for stimulating telecommunication development in the developing world using appropriate and proven technologies in ways which:

- a) serve the mutual interest of governments, operating companies, the public and specialized user groups in the developing world and of the public and private sectors in the developed countries; and
- b) lead to progressive achievement of self-reliance in the developing world and the narrowing of the gap between the developing and developed countries;

to consider the most cost-effective way in which the Union could stimulate and support the range of activities that might be necessary to achieve a more balanced expansion of telecommunication networks".

6. The Conference welcomed the Report of the Independent Commission aptly titled "The missing link", and commended the comprehensive manner in which the Commission had accomplished its task. The Conference endorsed the general thrust of the conclusions and recommendations embodied in this Report, and the principal objective set out therein: "by the early part of the next century, virtually the whole of mankind should be brought within easy reach of a telephone and, in due course, the other services telecommunications can provide".

7. The Conference felt that "The missing link" covered several realities, e.g. the ever-widening gap between the status of telecommunications in the developed countries and the developing world; the many constraints on the transfer of technology as well as the inadequate flow of material and financial resources from the developed nations to developing countries; the lack of full appreciation of the need for higher priority in resource allocations to telecommunications as a cardinal requirement for the progress of humanity as a whole; the imbalance between technology growth and the real needs of the developing world; the inadequate linkage between the urban and rural sectors and the insufficient attainment of self-reliance.

8. The Conference was convinced that these constraints have to be overcome as a matter of urgency.

9. The Conference noted that the progress of technology held great promise for the more rapid growth of telecommunication services in the developing world. The Conference also felt that this promise can be fulfilled through the active support of the developing and developed countries, motivated by a mutuality of interest in the rapid growth of telecommunications, because of the large and growing market of the developing world and also because improved telecommunication services between the developed and developing countries are, in themselves, of mutual benefit.

10. The Conference urged the governments of developing countries to consider the following:

- a) to accord, in their respective national development plans, sufficiently high priority to the telecommunications sector for the purpose of resource allocation for expansion, upgrading and modernization of their networks;
- b) to take specific measures, technical as well as managerial, to improve the maintenance and operational efficiency of available facilities and to expand them in a planned manner availing themselves of the benefits of new technology and systems, as found appropriate;
- c) to give particular emphasis to the training of personnel, at all levels, and for this purpose, to set up or augment necessary training facilities at the national, regional and subregional levels;

- d) to establish, wherever practical, common specifications for various items of equipments with a view to facilitating consolidated procurement to obtain economies of scale and better operational back-up;
- e) to establish, through co-operative endeavours, regional and subregional research and development activities and centres to study and resolve problems relevant to the local situation, as well as suitable manufacturing facilities whenever feasible;
- f) to promote horizontal co-operation and mutual assistance for telecommunications development; and
- g) to avail themselves of aid and technical assistance offered through multilateral and bilateral arrangements, in a co-ordinated manner, with the assistance, where necessary, of the ITU.

11. The Conference also urged the governments, telecommunication manufacturing and operating entities in developed countries to consider, where applicable:

- a) matching the higher priority which the developing countries have been urged to accord to the telecommunications sector, with developed countries devoting larger financial and technical resources than hitherto for telecommunications within the various multilateral and bilateral aid programmes and, in this regard, paying special attention to the pressing needs of the least developed countries;
- b) designing and marketing lower-cost equipment and systems, particularly matched to the needs of the developing countries, specially those for rural communities;
- c) offering wider opportunities for training of personnel from developing countries in all aspects of modern telecommunications;
- d) actively participating in the setting up of and giving support to existing national/regional/ subregional R & D centres and, where feasible, manufacturing facilities in the developing regions of the world, with appropriate technology-transfer arrangements;
- e) co-operating closely with the ITU to enable co-ordinated delivery of assistance to individual countries/ regions/subregions and optimized benefit to recipient countries.

12. The Conference appeals to all governments of developed countries to support the rapid growth of telecommunications in the developing countries.

13. The Conference appeals to all governments and regional and subregional organizations of developing countries to give high priority to telecommunications as recommended by the Independent Commission and in the light of the results of the Arusha World Telecommunications Development Conference.

14. The Conference requests the UNDP, the World Bank, regional and subregional development banks and

all other interested international agencies, regional economic commissions and subregional economic committees, to bring the report of the Independent Commission to the attention of the respective policy-making bodies with a view to according a higher priority and enhanced allocations to the needs of the telecommunications sector.

15. The Conference emphasized the need for long-term, low interest loans for this sector, particularly to economically most disadvantaged countries.

16. The Conference noted with considerable interest the recommendation of the Independent Commission that a Centre for Telecommunications Development be set up, supported by voluntary contributions from government and non-government sources particularly in developed countries. This holds out prospects of significant augmentation of available resources for rendering technical assistance to developing countries. The Conference hopes that the Administrative Council of the ITU would consider this recommendation in the light of consultations being carried out by the Secretary-General, and take an appropriate decision at its forthcoming session in July 1985.

17. The Conference noted, however, that the conclusions of the Independent Commission will be submitted to the Administrative Council of the ITU, which will initiate any action that it considers appropriate.

18. The Conference recognized that there was a serious shortage of funds for actual investment in telecommunications in developing countries and that while, in principle, such investments could yield attractive returns, especially in the urban areas, for some time to come there is a need for accentuated investments to make up for past shortfalls such that eventual growth can be self-sustaining.

19. The Conference took note of the long-term measures proposed by the Independent Commission and called upon the Member countries of the ITU to study them and take appropriate action so that more satisfactory financing and related institutional arrangements could be evolved.

20. Convinced that the ITU, as the specialized agency of the United Nations for telecommunications, has to play a dynamic role in the fulfilment of its purposes as spelt out in the International Telecommunication Convention, Nairobi, 1982, the Conference calls on all Member States to extend every support to the Union in its endeavours to respond to its mandate.

21. The Conference expresses its appreciation for the excellent arrangements made by the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania and wishes to thank the Government and people of Tanzania for the very warm hospitality extended to it.

Done at Arusha
30 May 1985

HONG KONG

PANEL STUDIES DATA PROTECTION, PRIVACY

Hong Kong HONGKONG STANDARD in English 2 Sep 85 p 9

[Article by Barbara Green]

[Excerpt] All data users, ie, those people and organisations who hold personal data, need to appoint a Data Protection officer to ensure that the organisation complies with the law.

As you can imagine, there is a new (and probably lucrative) industry growing up around the topic--courses, seminars and books--all concerned with enlightening those who will be affected by the changes.

There is also a school of thought in the UK which may well eventually extend to Hongkong.

That is that the legislation itself is not ideal in many ways but has been brought in to satisfy, not the ethical concept of personal privacy, but the requirements of other countries which already have legislation--particularly the European ones which have ratified the Council of Europe Data Protection Convention.

This Convention, signed by members of the Council of Europe, provides guidelines for data protection with particular reference to the flow of computerised personal data across national frontiers.

The fear is that any country which does not implement Data Protection legislation or a similar Code of Practice will be hampered in its exchange of data with those countries which have done so.

This must affect thinking on the need for legislation here in Hongkong. If one country wishes to export toys or cars to another it has to meet not its own safety and environmental standards but those of the purchaser.

Lack of similar legislation could eventually affect Hongkong's dealings with those nations which have imposed their own data protection standards.

Here in Hongkong there is a Government Working Group on Data Protection and Privacy, chaired by Mr Peter Tsao, the Administrative Services and Information Secretary.

Earlier this year the Group approached local bodies in the private sector to obtain their opinions. The Group's task overall is to examine the issue of Data Protection and to decide whether or not legislation will be required here and, if so, what it should contain.

The problems include not only those who must be encompassed by the law, but those who should be exempt.

Who and what should be exempt from the requirements of such an Act? Police? Doctors? Home computer users? Who and what can be exempted on the grounds of national security? Who will decide? There's a great deal of work ahead for somebody!

CSO: 5550/0170

HONG KONG

RECOMMENDATIONS OF BROADCAST REVIEW BOARD REPORTED

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA SUNDAY MORNING POST in English 8 Sep 85 p 8

[Article by Ann Quon]

[Text]

RTHK is likely to face as much pressure from the Government over programming as TVB and ATV — and possibly even more — if the Broadcasting Review Board's recommendations are accepted.

This is despite the board's proposal that the network sever its Government link and be set up as an independent statutory corporation with its own Board of Governors.

According to the BRB, prime-time TV is monopolised by the same mass-entertainment type of programme.

The move to turn some of that prime time over to RTHK is an attempt to provide the public with a real programming alternative.

Plans to give RTHK an hour of prime time each week night and two hours on week-

ends on the Chinese channels of TVB and ATV will not come without certain conditions and stipulations.

They include:

- A duty to inform, educate and entertain.

- A consistently high quality of balanced radio and television programming.

- An emphasis on balanced and objective public affairs programmes.

- Programming designed to foster an interest in music and the arts.

- Minority programming.

- Programmes that encourage audience participation and community development.

- Help in the setting-up of community radio stations.

- Provision of education-

al television programmes in accordance with approved Government policies.

In order for these requirements to be met, provisions will be made in the new broadcasting licences that will force broadcasting outlets to comply.

At the same time, there will be a mid-term review of licences by a proposed Broadcasting Authority, from which RTHK will not be exempt.

There will also be a complaints procedure set up whereby all broadcasting outlets will have to keep records of all their broadcasts so that complaints can be investigated by the authority.

Currently, monitoring of all broadcasting companies is spotty at best.

While the Television and Entertainment Licensing Authority monitors ATV and TVB, RTHK television and radio programmes are not subject to the Television or Telecommunications Authority and are not supervised or regulated.

Commercial Radio programmes are monitored on a spot check basis only.

The board recommends that in future, legislation governing both radio and television broadcasting be unified into a single ordinance to be called the Broadcasting Ordinance, for more uniform control of the industry.

CSO: 5550/0172

LAOS

RADIO STATION CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS NOTED

Vientiane HENG NGAN in Lao 1-5 Oct 84 p 6

[Text] Many persons traveling on Route 13 from Vientiane to Phon Hong will see a 150-kw radio antenna standing majestically near km 48. The morning sunlight bathes the entire beautiful landscape at the 150-kw radio station building site. Even though the air is hot, the October sun cannot stop the ambitious cadres and workers from exerting their efforts to build the radio station. It is music to our ears to hear their polite talk combine with the sounds of various engines and machinery around the construction site of Construction Service Unit 24 at Enterprise Building 2 of the National Construction Company under the Ministry of Construction. The cadres and workers are concentrating their strength in this major and important task. This has created an atmosphere that destroys the burning heat and their weariness in order to complete the project.

According to a report of Comrade Khampheng Khanthavong, a construction unit committee member, this project is important and meaningful. Construction and the clearing of land have been underway since 1982. Up to now, 60 percent of the land has been under construction for technical and control quarters, a guard house, and antenna and other facilities.

There are 2 senior and 11 middle-level cadres. Even though there is a small number of trade union members, they all concentrate their skills on working seriously on the installation of machinery and building construction. The 2 project areas have 20 Soviet technicians and different machinery consisting of 1 bulldozer, 3 fork lifts, 3 transport trucks, 3 electric generators, 3 cement mixers and other equipment, and the cadres, workers and state employees who are carrying out the project. In addition to their basic salary, the workers receive a per-diem payment of 55-75 kip; as for clothing, they receive two uniforms a year. In addition, there are two first aid persons and two medics to take care of the health of the workers and state employees. The trade union workers also take charge in proposing, setting up and administering welfare work. This has made welfare operations run smoothly and correctly.

The party has stated that any type of socialist work that helps implement plans to proceed in an enthusiastic atmosphere is important, even if it is a basic task. In addition to special-skill tasks, they are also interested in agriculture and animal husbandry in order to improve their living standards gradually.

In order to achieve results to commemorate the 2 upcoming historic days of the 30th anniversary of the LPRP and the 10th anniversary of the LPDR in 1985, in a meaningful and victorious manner, the workers are competing in some important tasks. The radio station will be opened on 2 December 1985. The yard around the station will be landscaped, the roof paved, the 60-square-meter floor laid and a number of tasks completed before 2 December. These tasks are currently progressing rapidly.

12597

CS0: 5500/4345

LAOS

PROBLEMS WITH RADIO SIGNAL, LIMITED AUDIENCE

Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 22 May 85 pp 2, 4

[Text] To the editor of VIENTIANE MAI:

I follow VIENTIANE MAI regularly. Today I have a question for you: primarily, I would like to talk about Radio Vientiane. Up to the present, the various programs that are being aired are not that clear. What are the reasons for this? Please suggest that they be corrected because I always like to listen to news and music, especially on Sundays.

I hope that you will send this suggestion to the concerned division and that they will look for ways to improve it.

Good bye,

Suthat

Dear Suthat:

Thank you for following VIENTIANE MAI and especially for following Radio Vientiane programs. Actually, very few people listen to our radio station, which is not only true for Radio Vientiane but also for National Radio. We do not want to comment about the reasons.

We know that the Radio Vientiane signal has not been clear. The main reason is that the transmitter has very low power, that is to say that it is weaker than certain other radio waves. The strength of our transmitter is only 450 watts; the transmitter for National Radio has a power of 150 kw. One thousand watts is equivalent to 1 kw. Just think that if the power of our transmission is not even 1 kw, how can you expect to have clear broadcasting?

We have a future Second 5-year Plan that calls for increasing the power of the radio signal to at least 10 kw. When we get a large transmitter, we will increase the broadcast programming time to at least 12 hours per day.

We feel that the transmitter cannot guarantee extending the broadcasting time: If the equipment is overused, it will burn out. Although technically a 450-watt transmitter has the capacity to broadcast 12 hours per day, we want to conserve the equipment and the vacuum tubes because vacuum tube life is measured in hours also. Vacuum tubes are expensive and must be bought in foreign currency.

You should know that you can listen to Radio Vientiane out to around 30 km if the terrain is flat. It cannot be guaranteed that the signal will be received beyond that distance. We are now improving our techniques and our radio signal. Please report to us how it is doing.

Thank you and good bye.

12597

CSO: 5500/4345

PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF CHINA

PRC, U.S. TO HOLD TELECOMMUNICATIONS CONFERENCE

OW070850 Beijing XINHUA in English 0830 GMT 7 Aug 85

[Text] Washington, 6 Aug (XINHUA)--The U.S. Commerce Department and Bell South Corporation today announced plans to bring more than 30 American companies to China in October for a conference on the application of telecommunications technology.

"The conference will be one of the first held since the signing (in January 1984) of an agreement between the two countries to provide new forums for American business in China," Under Secretary of Commerce Bruce Smart said at a news briefing today.

The conference will begin on October 28 in Beijing and will involve five days of technology presentations and four days of individual business meetings between American companies and Chinese officials, business executives and technical experts.

Smart told reporters, "economic and trade relations between the United States and China are healthy and progressing well," adding, "for example, trade between the United States and China already is running 24 percent ahead of last year."

He said the conference had been designated by the commerce department as an industry-organized, government-approved trade mission.

The conference will be sponsored by Atlanta-based Bell South International, a subsidiary of Bell South Corp, and Chinatex, a joint venture of American investors and the Chinese Government. The Chinese Association of Science and Technology will be the host in China.

"This conference will expose China to a broad range of American telecommunications technology," said John L. Clendenin, chairman of Bell South. "It may well be the catalyst for the American telecommunications industry to gain greater participation in the development of the multi-billion dollar Chinese telecommunications market."

Technical presentations, as approved and in accordance with export regulations of the U.S. federal government, will cover network planning, satellite networks, fiber optics, cellular radio, microwave applications and the development of the integrated services digital network.

CSO: 5500/4155

PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF CHINA

RENMIN RIBAO INTERVIEWS MINISTER ON PHONE SYSTEM

OW260922 Beijing XINHUA in English 0851 GMT 26 Aug 85

[Text] Beijing, 26 Aug (XINHUA)--China now has two million telephones and expects to have another 400,000 by the end of this year, double the number five years ago, said Yang Taifang, Minister of Posts and Telecommunications.

The number of long-distance trunk lines has increased three times, he said, but is still unable to keep up with the fast-growing demands for telephone service.

During an interview with "People's Daily", the minister said that China's economic development has brought increasing pressure upon posts and telecommunications. Long-distance telephone traffic in the first half of this year increased 31 percent over the same period of last year and the number of letters increased 22 percent plus a big increase in delivery of newspapers and magazines.

Strained railway transport has caused great difficulties in mail delivery, he said.

The state has given the same priority to the development of posts and telecommunications as energy and transport, he said.

Last year, China had 270,000 telephone sets added in urban areas. The laying of the north-south medium co-axial cable from Beijing to Guangzhou via Wuhan has been completed and will soon be put into service.

To rush the improvement of postal matters, the ministry opened road delivery routes between Beijing and Tianjin and between Beijing and Taiyuan and boat delivery routes on the Yangtze River from Shanghai to Wuhan and by sea from Dalian to Guangzhou.

More sea routes will be opened between coastal cities, he added.

Imported program-controlled telephone exchanges have been put into service in Fujian, Xiamen, Shenzhen, Beijing, Tianjin and Guangzhou. Production lines for manufacturing all-plastic urban telephone cables and teleprinters have

gone into production in Chengdu and Shanghai. A joint venture to produce program-controlled telephone exchanges will go into production this coming October.

The minister said that China will have 13 million telephone sets by 1990, including four million in urban areas. The number of long-distance telephone routes will reach 60,000.

Focus of telephone development will be in Beijing. Tianjin, Shanghai and Guangzhou as well as the special economic zones and open coastal cities. Numerically controlled telecommunications networks will first be established in the Yangtze River and Pearl River deltas and in the Beijing-Tianjin-Tangshan area, the minister said.

CSO: 5500/4156

PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF CHINA

YUNNAN BUILDS SATELLITE TV RECEIVING STATIONS

HK310456 Kunming Yunnan Provincial Service in Mandarin 1100 GMT 29 Aug 85

[Text] The province has completed yesterday the construction of a satellite television receiving station on Mt. (Wuhua). Through the international communications satellite, it received that night the test picture and test signal of China, programs from the Shanghai television station, and programs from channel one of China's central television station. The picture was clear and brightly colored, and the sound was pleasing to the ear.

In addition, by 15 September, the province will have completed the construction of the three satellite television receiving stations on Mt. (Dabian) in Simao Prefecture, Mt. (Cangshan) in Dali Bai Nationality Autonomous Prefecture and Mt. (Boduo) in Wenshan Zhuang-Miao Nationality Autonomous Prefecture.

Upon completion of the construction of satellite television receiving station on Mt. (Wuhua), the No 5 television substation on Mt. (Wuhua) will send the signal received to the Yunnan television station and to the No 4 substation on Mt. (Liangwang). Moreover, it will also be able to cooperate with the three core television stations in Simao, Dali and Wenshan and broadcast the television signal throughout the province, to give play to the technical and economic results of the satellite television receiving stations. The completion of the stations will improve the quality of relaying the television programs from China's central television station. At the same time, this is also part of the preparatory work for improving the province's reception quality of programs from the China's central and provincial television stations in its prefectures, autonomous prefectures, cities and counties.

CSO: 5500/4158

PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF CHINA

TELECOMMUNICATIONS TO IMPROVE IN SELECTED AREAS

HK121035 Beijing ZHONGGUO XINWEN SHE in Chinese 0717 GMT 9 Aug 85

[Text] Beijing, 9 Aug (ZHONGGUO XINWEN SHE) -- By enthusiastically applying advanced technologies and with advanced facilities, China's special economic zones and coastal cities opening to the world are speeding up the transformation and installation of telecommunications facilities. The strain on their telecommunications services is now being alleviated.

According to today's RENMIN RIBAO Overseas Edition, in recent years, in order to improve the backward telecommunications services in the coastal areas opening to the world and to improve the investment environment, the coastal cities have been introducing such advanced telecommunications facilities as program-controlled telephones and optical-fiber cables on a large scale. The Ministry of Post and Telecommunications is to increase the number of automatic switchboards by 300,000 this year. Of these, more than 200,000 are program-controlled. So far, Fuzhou, Xiamen, Shenzhen, Guangzhou, and Tianjin have installed program-controlled telephone facilities. By the end of this year, Guangzhou, Shanghai, Tianjin, Dalian, Qinghuangdao, Lianyungang, Nantong, Qingdao, and Ningbo will have their own program-controlled inner-city telephone switchboards. It is hoped that Zhuhai, Beihai, Zhangjiang, Wenzhou, Yantai, and Shantou will have their program-controlled inner-city telephone switchboards during the next year.

The installation of long-distance call switchboards is also being speeded up. Long-distance direct dialing is now possible in such coastal cities and special economic zones as Tianjin, Fuzhou, Shanghai, Zhuhai, Guangzhou, Xiamen, and Shenzhen.

It is expected that by the end of 1986, long-distance direct dialing will also be possible in Dalian, Qinghuangdao, Qingdao, and Yantai. Shanghai is to experiment in September with a program-controlled long-distance call switchboard imported from Belgium. By that time, the people in Shanghai will be able to make direct long-distance calls to several dozen cities in the country and to more than a dozen foreign countries. In addition, by the end of this year, telegraph services will be provided in all the special economic zones and coastal cities opening to the world. By then, people will be able to send telegrams directly to all parts of the country and all parts of the world from their own offices.

The setting up of microwave facilities and trunk cables in the special economic zones and coast cities opening to the world is also being speeded up. China will finish laying the "Beijing-Wuhun-Guangzhou" cable, its second major underground telecommunication artery, before the end of this year. In addition it will finish work on the trunk cables and microwave facilities between Nanjing and Shanghai, Shantou and Xiamen, Shenyang and Dalian, Shanghai and Hangzhou, and Jinan and Qingdao, and the trunk cables between Nanning and Beihai, Xuzhou and Lianyungang, and Hailou and Sanya, and put them into use this year or next year.

CSO: 5500/4158

PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF CHINA

GUIZHOU DEVELOPS TV SATELLITE RECEIVING STATION

HK290935 Guiyang Guizhou Provincial Service in Mandarin 2300 GMT 25 Jul 85

[Excerpt] The Province's state-run (HONGQI) Machinery Plant, (Changhong) Machinery Plant and (Yonghua) Instrument Plant have successfully developed a six meter C-band [as heard] satellite television receiving station. Television programs received by the station directly from the satellite are better than those received by relay in Guiyang in terms of clarity of picture and sound. The success of the development of the station has thus created conditions for enlarging the coverage area of the province's television broadcasts, particularly for solving problems in receiving television broadcasts in mountainous and remote areas.

Depending on its own efforts, (HONGQI) Machinery Plant fulfilled the task of designing over 1,000 drawings and confirming thousands of pieces of data on various equipment interfaces in 25 days. At the end of June, it succeeded in developing and producing the first prototype of the antenna. In addition, it has developed its production capability. Now, it can make an antenna in two days' time.

Meanwhile, (Changhong) and (Yonghua) factories completed the production of the receiving device on time. According to the evaluation of relevant experts, the technical data of the six meter C-band satellite television receiving station have reached beyond the national standards. Its efficiency is about 70 percent, ranking top in China.

On 22 and 23 July, Comrade Zhu Houze, as well as responsible persons of the provincial party and government, respectively visited the scientists and technicians, and the staff concerned at the state-run (HONGQI) Machinery Plant, who had made contributions to successfully developing the six meter satellite television receiving antenna.

On the evening of 22 July, Comrade Zhu Houze made a special trip to the (HONGQI) Machinery Plant, and spoke highly of the plant for its successful development of the six meter satellite television receiving antenna within a short time. He also offered congratulations to the plant's scientists, technicians, and other staff. He encouraged the plant to make further efforts and to strive to give full play to its advantages, so as to make greater contributions for promoting the development of China's television undertaking, particularly for popularizing and developing the television undertaking in mountainous and remote areas.

During the afternoon of 23 July, responsible persons of the provincial party and government, including Su Gang, Zhang Yuhuan, Jin Feng, He Rendong, Zhang Shukui, (Long Juyi) and (Gu Weilin); responsible persons of the provincial office of the Commission of Science, Technology and Industry for National Defense; as well as responsible persons of Qiannan Autonomous Prefecture also visited the scientists and technicians and other staff at the (HONGQI) Machinery Plant, who made contributions to the development of the six meter satellite television receiving antenna. The leading comrades watched the actual operation of the six meter satellite television receiving antenna, and listened to reports on developing the device. Later, they visited the workshop for producing the six meter satellite television antenna.

CSO: 5500/4158

7 October 1985

PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF CHINA

SHENZHEN MAKES GAIN IN TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

HK090811 Beijing ZHONGGUO XINWEN SHE in Chinese 0700 GMT 8 Aug 85

[Text] Shenzhen, 8 Aug (ZHONGGUO XINWEN SHE)--The Shenzhen Special Economic Zone has remarkably improved telecommunications services since the beginning of this year.

Shenzhen introduced 100 long-distance telephone lines directly connecting Beijing, Shanghai, Zhuhai, Shantou, as well as some cities and counties in Guangdong this year. Long-distance calls are more accessible now. In the first half of this year, the turnover volume was 86 percent higher than the same period last year. After Shenzhen introduced the international lines to Beijing, Shanghai, and Guangzhou stations, more than 80 percent of Shenzhen's long-distance calls to other parts of the world were put through within twenty minutes. In the first half of this year, the turnover volume of international calls increased by 1.48 times compared with the same period last year. Moreover, calls on Shenzhen's direct lines to Macao, which opened early this year, can be put through within 15 minutes. Compared with the same period last year, the turnover volume of telephone calls between Shenzhen and Macao had sharply increased by 3.1 times. After the Shenzhen-Guangzhou direct dial service was put into operation in May this year, the number of direct dial telephone subscribers from Shenzhen to Guangzhou increased to 800. Thus, the problem of having difficulty in putting through calls from Shenzhen to Guangzhou was solved.

Presently, 400,000 long distance calls are made between Shenzhen and Hong Kong each month. In the first half of this year, the turnover volume increased by 1.42 times compared with the same period last year. By the end of June, there were 110 fully automatic telephone lines operating between Shenzhen and Hong Kong. The number of subscribers of this service in Shenzhen increased to 3,100. Furthermore, Shenzhen has opened 100 semi-automatic telephone lines to Hong Kong.

In the Shenzhen special zone, guest houses, travel service companies, and hotels such as Yinhua, Donghu, Xiangmihu, Zhuyuan, Xingyuan, Huaqiao, Shenzhen, and Guangxin also offer their customers direct dialing services to Hong Kong, and for making international calls and calls to other parts of China. In Shenzhen, there are outlets for direct dial service to Hong Kong in such districts as Nantou, Shekou, and Shatoujiao, as well as Buji, Pingshan, and Longgang Districts and towns in Bao'an County.

In order to make things convenient for visitors, the telecommunications office at Luohu railway station introduced direct dialing services to Guangzhou in May. Therefore, visitors can ask their relatives to receive them as late as 10 and more minutes prior to their departure to Guangzhou. The telephone service is easily accessible, and there are Guangzhou City telephone books available for reference.

In the first half of this year, the turnover volume of telegrams in Shenzhen increased by 1.6 times compared with the same period last year. It introduced three more telex lines, and replaced the mechanical telex machines with electronic ones. The telegraphic [dian bao ji xi lu 7193 1032 2623 6230 3764] decoding rate has reached 95 percent.

CS0: 5500/4158

PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF CHINA

GUANGXI RADIO, TELEVISION WORK CONFERENCE ENDS

HK050935 Nanning Guangxi Regional Service in Mandarin 1130 GMT 3 Aug 85

[Text] In the broadcasting and television work throughout the region, it is necessary to regard propaganda work as the center and the building of the regional broadcasting station and television station as the backbone work, to do well in grasping reform of the township broadcasting stations, to build them into relatively independent operational entities, and to run broadcasting and television well at many levels and in many aspects. This a demand which the regional conference on radio and television work put forward.

The regional conference on radio and television work concluded this afternoon. (Deng Shengcai), deputy secretary of the Regional Broadcasting and Television Department Party Group and deputy department director, delivered a speech. Comrade (Deng Shengcai) said that the results of this conference are great and the conference is a success. We have achieved the desired object. Through study and discussion, we have all unified still better our understanding of the region's current situation in broadcasting and television work, understand still more specifically and profound the nature, tasks, and policies of the broadcasting and television work, have defined still better the orientation of the development of the broadcasting and television cause, and corrected the guiding ideology in work more. Through exchanges of experiences, we have all widened our field of vision, learned from others' strong points to offset our weaknesses, and learned and found some new ways and new methods of how to further do the broadcasting and television work well so that we can strengthen our confidence and resolve to develop the cause.

In his speech, (Deng Shengcai) put forward his views on how to strengthen the concept of Party spirit, how to act seriously and well as the mouthpiece of the Party and the government, how to formulate a plan for developing the broadcasting and television cause, how to carefully do well in grasping reform of the township and town broadcasting stations, how to strengthen investigation and study and to sum up new experiences, how to strengthen the building of the broadcasting and television ranks, and so on. He pointed out that in the course of our practical work, we must always pay attention to examination and comparison to see if we have strengthened Party spirit and acted well as the mouthpiece of the Party and the government,

to see if our remarks, the content of our propaganda, and all of our work are consistent with the political program and stand of the Party and are beneficial to the building of the two socialist civilizations and to the fostering and enhancing of the communist ideals and values of the masses. He said that to act as a mouthpiece well, it is necessary to strengthen study of theory and policies, to understand the intention of the CPC committees, and to constantly heighten our theoretical and policy levels.

In dealing with the issue on formulating a plan, Comrade (Deng Shengcai) pointed out the general guiding ideology, which is to vigorously and safely do what one is capable of, to distinguish between circumstances, and to make gradual development by stages and in groups. In the specific method, it is generally to run broadcasting first and then television and to set up experimental broadcasting and television stations first and then county broadcasting and television stations. Regarding reform of the township and town broadcasting stations, he said that we must build them into propaganda and management organs of political power at the township and town level. The general plan for reform is to reform the system, to relax policies, to carry out comprehensive operation, to maintain [word indistinct] accounting, to invigorate the economy, and to build the township and town broadcasting stations into operational entities.

In his speech, Comrade (Deng Shengcai) emphasized that it is necessary to attach importance to investigation and study in everything, to proceed from reality in everything, and to improve work style. Judging from the current development of our broadcasting and television cause, there are many important subjects which need our careful investigation and study. Only by investigating the situation more clearly can our work smoothly progress.

Attending the closing ceremony were responsible persons of the Regional Broadcasting and Television Department, including (Chen Ming), (Xia Meiyu), and Liu Yuanxiu.

CSO: 5500/4158

PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF CHINA

BRIEFS

TV SATELLITE SYSTEM TEST--Guiyang, 29 Jul (XINHUA)--A C-band satellite television receiving system with a 6-meter antenna, designed and developed by China itself, passed an acceptable test in Duyun City of Guizhou Province today. Composed of an antenna and a receiver, the system can beam television programs directly via a satellite. Unobstructed by high mountains and tall buildings, it can maintain normal operations in such bad weather as force-10 storms, can survive force-12 typhoons, and has an antenna efficiency of over 70 percent. The antenna is attractive in appearance and simple in structure, and can be conveniently transported, mounted, dismounted, and manipulated. The matching receiver is very light in weight, being the size of a portable tape recorder. Experts in this field believe that the successful development of this product can expand the area of television transmission in China and particularly create conditions for solving problems related to television reception in remote mountain areas. At present, China relies on microwave relay stations to broadcast programs of the Central Television Station to some localities. This relaying process is not only costly but can result in poor reception in some remote areas. The C-band satellite television machinery plant, Changhong Machinery Plant, and Yonghua Radio Equipment Plant under the China Zhenhua Electronics Industrial Company of the Ministry of Electronics Industry, will greatly improve the situation. The Zhenhua Electronics Industrial Company has begun to manufacture this product in small quantities. [Text] [Beijing XINHUA Domestic Service in Chinese 1248 GMT 29 Jul 85]

SATELLITE TV RECEIVING STATIONS--Beijing, 2 Aug (XINHUA)--The responsible person of the General Office of the Leading Group to Develop Electronics under the State Council told this reporter today that the installation and test runs of the 53 satellite TV receiving stations that the state would give to 16 provinces and autonomous regions are being stepped up. By September of this year, some areas in these provinces and autonomous regions are expected to view TV programs broadcast by the Central Television Station via satellite. The 16 provinces and autonomous regions are: Nei Monggol, Jilin, Heilongjiang, Shandong, Jiangxi, Hunan, Guangxi, Sichuan, Yunnan, Guizhou, Xizang, Gansu, Shaanxi, Ningxia, Qinghai, and Xinjiang. These satellite TV receiving stations are all constructed in remote areas, minority nationality regions, and old revolutionary bases. It has been learned that the leased No 4 Indian Ocean satellite is situated above the equator at 57 degrees longitude and 3,578 km from the earth, enabling 100 percent TV coverage of China. So to speak, any place in China equipped with a TV receiving station can view programs broadcast by the Central Television Station. The Hongqiao Earth

Station in Shanghai yesterday formally began transmissions of nationwide programs of the Central Television Station to the International Telecommunications Satellite above the Indian Ocean. Current reception by some of the receiving stations indicates the picture quality and stability is fine and the sound is clear. [Article by Huang Fengchu] [Text] [Beijing XINHUA Domestic Service in Chinese 1310 GMT 2 Aug 85]

SHANGHAI AUTOMATIC TELEGRAM PROCESSOR--Shanghai, 22 Jun (XINHUA)--China's first computer-controlled, 256-channel automatic telegram processor passed appraisal by the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications today in Shanghai. Designed by the Shanghai Municipal Telegraph Bureau, the system can process 200,000 telegrams a day. Featuring over 20 functions, it can automatically receive, identify and sort telegrams, and send them out in order through different channels. It also automatically sounds a warning of, and records, any abnormal conditions occurring in the device. [Text] [Beijing XINHUA Domestic Service in Chinese 1553 GMT 22 Jun 85]

JIANGSU RURAL TELEPHONES--By the end of June, Jiangsu's rural areas had more than 6,800 telephone lines and more than 136,000 telephones, 69 percent of the villages are now so linked. Among them are villages in Jiangning, Wuxi, Jiangyin, Xuyi, Changshu, Taicang, Wujiang, and Congtai counties. [Summary] [Nanjing Jiangsu Provincial Service in Mandarin 2300 GMT 13 Jul 85]

RADIO, TELEVISION BROADCASTING CONFERENCE--The 2d meeting of five provinces and autonomous regions in northwest China on cooperation in management of radio and television work was held in Xining from 10 to 16 July. A total of 40 people attended the meeting, including leading comrades of radio and television departments, radio stations, and television stations, and responsible persons of some professional sections of the departments and stations from Shaanxi, Gansu, Qinghai, Xinjiang, and Ningxia. The meeting was sponsored by the Qinghai provincial radio and television department. At the meeting, all the delegates introduced the development of radio and television in their own provinces and autonomous regions over the past 2 years, studied the reforms in propaganda, technology and administrative management of radio and television work, exchanged experiences on running radio and television stations by themselves, and explored a new way of further developing radio and television. At the beginning of the meeting, Zhao Haifeng, former secretary of the provincial CPC committee; Bainma Dandzin, provincial vice governor; (Wu Fan), deputy director of the provincial CPC committee propaganda department; and others met all the delegates. At the conclusion of the meeting, a decision was made that the next meeting on cooperation in the management of radio and television by the five provinces and autonomous regions in northwest China will be held in Shaanxi Province. [Text] [Xining Qinghai Provincial Service in Mandarin 1100 GMT 16 Jul 85]

SICHUAN SATELLITE STATION--Construction of the Liangshan autonomous prefecture experimental satellite television receiving station is now underway. Construction of the main body of the building is almost complete. It is hoped to have the work completed in September. The equipment for the station has been donated by the CPC Central Committee, the State Council, and the provincial government in their concern for the development of minority-nationality areas. At present, central television station programs are relayed

to Liangshan via the Sichuan television station. After the new receiving station is completed, the autonomous prefecture can receive the programs directly via satellite. [Summary] [Chengdu Sichuan Provincial Service in Mandarin 1030 GMT 29 Jul 85]

SATELLITE TV STATIONS PLANNED--According to a ZHONGGUO DIANZI BAO [CHINA ELECTRONICS NEWS] report, acting on instructions from leading comrades of the CPC Central Committee and the State Council, the Office of the Electronics Industry Revitalization Group of the State Council has organized the Ministry of Electronics Industry, the Ministry of Post and Telecommunications, and the Ministry of Astronautics to produce 53 sets of equipment for satellite television receiving stations which will be distributed among 16 border or remote provinces, municipalities, and autonomous regions. The Office has also required that the receiving stations be ready for operation by the end of next August. To ensure that the receiving stations are completed on schedule, the various departments have stepped up their scientific research and production. It is anticipated that by early August, a major part of the equipment will be ready for testing and acceptance. When the local stations are open, Xizang, Xinjiang, Qinghai, Yunnan, Jiangxi, and other remote localities will be able to directly receive the Central Television Station's No 1 Programs. [Text] [Beijing Domestic Service in Mandarin 0900 GMT 30 Jul 85]

JIANGXI TV RELAY STATIONS--Three new television relay stations have been built in Tonggu County, a remote mountainous area in northwest Jiangxi. [Summary] [Nanchang Jiangxi Provincial Service in Mandarin 1100 GMT 13 Aug 85]

FUJIAN UNDERSEA MICROWAVE LINK--Fuzhou, 13 Aug (ZHONGGUO XINWEN SHE)--China's first undersea microwave link between Fuzhou and Xiamen passed technical tests and was officially commissioned the other day. Thirty-nine professors, senior engineers, engineers, and technicians from 22 units throughout the country participated in the tests. They unanimously held that after being used on an experimental basis for more than 3 years, the undersea microwave link has been proven successful and can be officially commissioned. Designed installed, and tested by Fujian Province itself, the undersea microwave link with a total length of 305 km was completely equipped with facilities and parts made in China. Its completion can help the five television transmission stations, two frequency-modulated transmission stations, and two central medium-wave transmitting stations between Fuzhou and Xiamen transmit signals of two TV programs and three radio programs, thereby ensuring that the people in the coastal areas, who account for more than 50 percent of the province's population, can satisfactorily watch television programs and listen to radio broadcasts. [Text] [Beijing ZHONGGUO XINWEN SHE in Chinese 1349 GMT 13 Aug 85]

7 October 1985

OPTICAL FIBRE COMMUNICATION LINE--Chongqing, 20 Aug (XINHUA)--Chongqing, the industrial center of southwest China, is building the first optical fibre communication line. The six kilometer, 480-channel optical fibre communication line was started last May and is expected to be put into service in June next year, and it is built mainly for telephone service, said an engineer of the local telecommunication bureau. The city now has 30,000 telephones at the service of its 13 million citizens. Two other optical fibre communication lines will be set up in its urban area within five years for facsimile, data and T.V. transmission services. So far, 480-channel optical fibre communication lines have been built only in Tianjin and Wuhan. [Text] [Beijing XINHUA in English 1214 GMT 20 Aug 85]

SATELLITE TV RECEIVING STATIONS OPERATING--Beijing, 11 Sep (XINHUA)--A total of 34 satellite television receiving stations have now gone into operation in 13 provinces and autonomous regions. They are among the 53 receiving stations that the state has designated for 16 remote provinces and autonomous regions. The rest will be put into use this month. Through relay by an international telecommunications satellite, the new stations enable people in Inner Mongolia, Xinjiang, Heilongjiang, Yunnan and Guizhou to receive the programs of the China Central Television (CCTV) Broadcasting Station. The satellite ground station in Shanghai started to send the CCTV programs to the rented international satellite 1 August. [Text] [Beijing XINHUA in English 1629 GMT 11 Sep 85]

CSO: 5500/4156

TAIWAN

BRIEFS

TELECOMMUNICATIONS MODERNIZATION PLAN--Taipei, 1 Aug (CNA)--The Executive Yuan Thursday approved a 6-year plan to modernize telecommunication services in cities, bring telephone lines to every rural household, and upgrade the standard of international telecommunication services. The communications modernization plan, one of the 14 infrastructure projects currently under way on the island, will create a solid basis for the nation's goal of building an ISDN (Integrated Service Digital Network), a spokesman of the Directorate General of Telecommunications says. By 1990, when the plan is fully materialized, the spokesman says, 82 of every 100 households in the Taiwan area will have access to telephone lines. At that time, he says, 93 of every 100 households in Taipei will have had telephones installed. Eighty-eight of every 100 households in Kaohsiung and 70 of every 100 in rural areas will have had telephones installed. In 1990, 31 percent of the urban telephone switching system and 81 percent of the long-distance services will be digitalized, the official says. Other goals of the plan will include a "three-way" calling service available to ordinary subscribers on the island, the official says. [Text] [Taipei CNA in English 1012 GMT 1 Aug 85]

COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM PROGRESS--Taipei, Aug 12 (CNA)--It is getting easier and easier to communicate in the Republic of China. According to the Ministry of Communications, the country is expanding and improving its basic communications system while keeping abreast of modern developments in communications technology. In 1984, for example, 1,618 new digital communications cables were installed throughout the country. This was an increase of 61 percent from the number of new cables laid in 1984. A ministry official said that the continued development of digital communications systems in Taiwan and the integration of computer technology with the existing network are high-priority goals for the government. He said that efficient digital communications would be a boon for business in this country, and would raise the general standard of living. The ministry reported that 417,000 new telephones were installed in 1985. But this is still a decrease of 33 percent from the number of new phones installed in 1984. In 1985, 22,171 new long-distance lines were opened, a 2.2 percent decrease from the number opened in 1984. The ministry spokesman attributed the decreases to the fact that Taiwan has become "saturated" with phones as practically everybody who needs and wants a phone already has one. [Text] [Taipei CNA in English 0239 GMT 13 Aug 85]

CSO: 5500/4157

VIETNAM

BRIEFS

WIDEBAND MICROWAVE STATION--Pursuant to the agreement on postal and telecommunications cooperation the Soviet Union is assisting our province by constructing a wideband microwave communications station. On completion of construction scores of conversations can be carried simultaneously between Ha Nam Ninh and Hanoi without use of wire for transmission. In addition to providing voice capabilities the microwave channel can copy photography and newspapers from Hanoi and relay radio and television transmissions. The microwave tower constructed at the Nam Dinh Post and Telecommunications Office is about 120 meters high. /Text/ /Nam Ninh HA NAM NINH in Vietnamese 9 Aug 85 p 3/

PHU KHANH WIRED RADIO--Phu Khanh Province has properly implemented the slogan "The State and the People Work Together" in building and expanding the broadcasting and wired-radio networks. The province has so far set up 14 wired-radio stations in districts, more than 200 45,000-watt wired-radio stations at the installations, and a 2,500-km wire network connecting 10,000 public speakers and 30,000 domestic speakers. [Excerpt] [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 12 Sep 85]

CSO: 5500/4352

ARGENTINA

INFORMATICS COMPONENT FIRMS TO BE ESTABLISHED IN CORDOBA

Cordoba LA VOZ DEL INTERIOR in Spanish 10 Aug 85 p 7

[Text] Four companies that produce computer components are planning to set up shop in industrial promotion areas in the province. Most of the capital in the firms is domestic, though there is some foreign investment, and they will require a great deal of skilled manpower.

The firms made known their intention to locate in Cordoba when they took part in the competitive bidding that the national government had called via Resolution No 44 for the manufacture of computer components. An active role in organizing the bidding was played by the Informatics Directorate of the province's Planning and Coordination Ministry, which is headed by Jose Luis Ramos.

The outcome of the nationwide bidding was recently announced by Governor Eduardo Angeloz, who in discussing the issue in public indicated his desire to establish a "cybernetics enclave" or a "computer city" to highlight the major technological strides in the area and the manpower that the firms locating there will need. The governor associated the strides with the installation of a radioisotope plant in Embalse and the utilization of all of the technology of the multinational firm Honda (if it locates in Cruz del Eje), adding that the comprehensive use of "state-of-the-art technology" would make this province a pacesetter in Argentina.

It was learned from Planning Ministry sources that intensive efforts are under way to draft a growth management plan for the computer enclave, together with the interested firms, so that development there is rational and well-organized and can meet future demand in the areas of infrastructure, services and housing.

The companies will reportedly locate in the northwestern zone, which is a target of the industrial promotion provisions, and they will be producing both for the domestic market and, in particular, for export.

The nation's industry secretary, Carlos Lacerca, said yesterday that the first acceptances in the bidding, which totaled more than \$120 million, would probably be issued late this month.

He pointed out that several companies have formed consortiums, which will mean duly complementary technologies. Moreover, the secretary pooh-poohed the accounts to the effect that only a few small firms had submitted bids. He said that the leading computer companies had submitted bids. With regard to IBM's absence, he said that it was for "commercial strategy reasons."

8743

CSO: 5500/2105

ARGENTINA

BRIEFS

SECYT INFORMATICS SCHOOL PROJECT—The secretary of science and technology, Dr Manuel Sadovsky, has announced the creation of a Superior Latin American Informatics School, which is expected to open in March of next year. He made the announcement at a press conference called to report on the actions that the Science and Technology Secretariat (SECYT) is undertaking. He said that the school would train highly specialized personnel and might be located in the Pereyra Iraola Park in Buenos Aires Province. The purpose of this and other SECYT priority projects is to reverse the trend towards dependency that sharpened under the de facto government. The numbers speak for themselves. From 1977 to 1983, 2,497 technology transfer contracts were signed at a cost of about \$2 million, plunging the country into severe underdevelopment. "Whereas the industrial GDP was one-fifth lower in 1983 than in 1977, the spending on foreign technology grew ninefold during the same period." Also, the First Argentine-Brazilian Computer School will open in February 1986 at Campinas, Brazil under an agreement between the two countries. The first graduating class of highly specialized personnel will total 400 (200 Argentines and 200 Brazilians). Computer-industry projects are handled by the Undersecretariat of Informatics and Development, which is headed by Dr Carlos Maria Correa. [Text] [Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 15 Aug 85 p 38] 8743

INFORMATICS WRITING CONTEST—At a press conference yesterday the undersecretary of informatics and development, Carlos Maria Correa, announced the opening of the first contest for Argentine writers on computer-related topics. The three topics are computer logic, programming and data structuring methods, and processor architecture, with prizes in australes equivalent to \$1,000 for each winner plus publication of the work by the Buenos Aires University publishing house. The contest is part of the government's efforts to promote the computer industry and foster creativity in a key area of new technology. In addition, as Science and Technology Secretary Manuel Sadovsky underscored, the government wants to emphasize theory in the fields of computers and education, in which he acknowledged that the country has so far been weak. For his part, the head of the Buenos Aires University publishing house, Luis Gregorich, reported that the publication of the winning works would coincide with the launching of a series on computers in education. The contest, which has a 31 December deadline, is sponsored by Inforexco S.R.L., Proceda S.A., the radio program "Computers 85" and the university publishing house, obviously under the auspices of the Informatics and Development

Secretariat. The organizers are expecting a good reception from the public, which during the recent Book Fair showed that it was already aware of the science and technology gap that our country has to close when it complained about the lack of books in this field. [Text] [Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 2 Aug 85 p 32] 8743

NEW TELEPHONE EXCHANGE—Corrientes—The Automatic Telephone Exchange was inaugurated in the city of Goya, 230 kilometers south of the capital of Corrientes, at a ceremony attended by the governor of the province, Dr Jose Antonio Romero Feris, and other officials. The new equipment consists of 5,000 lines linking Goya to the national direct dial network that serves more than 680 locations in Argentina and Uruguay and cities in southern Brazil. Governor Romero Feris made these remarks at the inauguration ceremony: "During our years in office we can accomplish much in the field of communications, which is of vital importance, surpassing all that has been done up to now in our province. We want to keep pace with scientific and technological progress," he added, "and we are thus working for the future, with a view towards Argentina in the year 2000." Also speaking at the ceremony was Manuel Hector Garcia, the engineer who is the general manager of the National Telecommunications Enterprise. [Text] [Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 12 Aug 85 p 28] 8743

CSO: 5500/2105

7 October 1985

BELIZE

GOVERNMENT BAN ON PUP TV PROGRAM SPARKS CRITICISM

Silence of Local Press

Belize City THE BELIZE TIMES in English 18 Aug 85 pp 1, 12

[Excerpt] The UDP Government's unconstitutional ban on the PUP TV program "Our Turn" is an ominous attack on the freedom of expression and freedom of the press. If it is allowed to get away with this, other forms of censorship are not far distant, including censorship of the newspapers. Remember it is private TV stations, not the government owned radio, that have been forbidden by the UDP to transmit the program.

Certain newspapers are taking a very narrow-minded position on this issue. It is irrelevant that the PUP Administration passed the offensive regulation. If you like, blame the PUP for that. But don't, because you can't, use that to justify the UDP government's action--if it's wrong, it's wrong and the UDP's insistence on enforcing a bad regulation only testifies to its own repressive tendencies.

If one newspaper fails to condemn this harsh censorship, it is agreeing to a line of action that can easily be turned against it in the future.

Yet, the local press by its narrow minded party political approach happily stands by while the UDP tramples on the freedom of expression. Even the Supreme Court Order is being ignored by the UDP and they are insisting that the freedom guaranteed by the Constitution and upheld by the court should not be exercised. Surely no newspaper can ignore this serious threat.

Critique of Government's Action

Belize City THE BELIZE TIMES in English 18 Aug 85 p 2

[Unsigned article: "Government Vs Constitution"]

[Text] The government's decision not to honour a Supreme Court ruling to allow the showing of the PUP sponsored programme "Our Turn" on private television is at once contemptuous and reprehensible. Former Chief Justice Moe's landmark decision upholding the applicants' right under provisions of Articles 12 and 16 of the Belize Constitution is now being openly flouted by the UDP Government.

This action by the government is a serious and flagrant violation of the sacred principles enshrined in the Constitution; principles which were meant to be protected, respected and upheld. It casts a dark cloud on the administration of justice, and taints those responsible for its enforcement.

As if this were not enough, the UDP government has vowed to pursue the case to the Privy Council in London if necessary, regardless of the cost of taxpayers. And this raises some very disturbing questions:

1. What in the programme 'Our Town' could be so damaging to the UDP as to warrant such extreme actions?
2. Why is this government, which has publicly expressed support for freedom of expression, suppressing the effort of the opposition to exercise this basic right?
3. Why is government squandering its limited resources on costly court appeals for the right to trample on the human rights of its tax-paying citizens?

These and other questions will be debated in boardrooms, offices, factories, and other places of assembly in the coming weeks by concerned Belizeans. They will be demanding answers from a government which has become increasingly dictatorial, pompous, and immoral; a government which continues to squander its meager resources; a government that defies the Constitution and the Supreme Court of this country.

CSO: 3298/1006

BERMUDA

TELCO DEMONSTRATES DATANET SYSTEM TO NEIGHBORING STATES

Hamilton THE ROYAL GAZETTE in English 18 Jul 85 p 20

[Text]

Bermuda's telecommunications network is the showcase for the Caribbean this week with demonstrations and seminars hosted by Telco for telephone managers from all over the West Indies.

The visitors are being co-hosted at the Hamilton Princess Hotel by Northern Telecom, Telco's Canadian-based main supplier.

Central to the visit by the 30 or so Caribbean managers is Telco's Datanet service, which has been undergoing field trials since December last year.

Datanet is a high-speed datacommunications system which uses the telephone network and is capable of handling up to 56,000 bits of

information a second.

The system involves integrated services digital network (ISDN) technology, on which Northern Telecom is pinning many of its hopes for future profits.

ISDN carries information in all its forms — voice, data and text and graphic images — within the same network and makes it available from common terminal points. The integrated business network (IBN) is a related system also on display this week.

Bermudian managers and company executives were shown how the service works at a special demonstration last night. The guests included people from banks, international and computer companies, as well as politi-

cians, lawyers, the police and the US Navy.

The Caribbean guests, who spent yesterday afternoon sightseeing, come from the Bahamas, Barbados, Haiti, Grenada, Jamaica, Belize, Trinidad and Tobago, Antigua and the London office of Cable & Wireless.

Telco general manager Mr. Desmond Walker said Northern Telecom's use of Telco as a showcase was an honour for Bermuda.

"We're getting something here which is perhaps unique as far as these other countries are concerned.

"When the service finally comes into use later this year, we will be probably be the only country in the world with total coverage. The network will be island-wide," he said.

CSO: 5540/053

BRAZIL

CONIN TO STUDY PROPOSED CHANGES IN INFORMATICS LAW

Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 11 Aug 85 p 39

[Text] Brasilia--At the beginning of September the National Informatics Council (CONIN) will evaluate a number of proposals from various ministries aimed at changing CONIN's guidelines for the next 3 years and recommending certain alterations in the informatics law. This will be the first time that members of an official organization will be questioning the present informatics policy.

Some of the principal proposals for changes in the informatics law are signed by Communications Minister Antonio Carlos Magalhaes. However, all of the proposals submitted by the ministers are being kept confidential by the Special Secretariat of Informatics which is trying to consolidate them in a single text to be discussed at the CONIN meeting. Science and Technology Minister Renato Archer, the council's coordinator, sees no reason to propose basic changes in the legal text. "The informatics law is of national interest and has fulfilled its objective of promoting the expansion of the national informatics industry," the minister alleges.

Liberalization

CONIN is made up of 24 individuals--15 of them ministers of state--and among its responsibilities is that of drawing up the National Informatics Plan, to be examined and approved annually by Congress. The council has the power to propose regulations with regard to subject matter covered by Law 7.232/84 (the informatics law) and hand down specific resolutions relating to procedures to be followed by organizations of the Federal Government.

At its first meeting in the "New Republic," held on 15 May, CONIN accepted President Jose Sarney's decision to free the entertainment industry installed in Manaus from the control of the Special Secretariat of Informatics (SEI). This was the first example of the more flexible interpretation of the informatics law, which closely screens all entertainment products using digital processing. But to achieve this, business people and politicians in the Amazon River region had to put intense pressure of the government.

Orthodox Interpretations

At the September meeting, the members of CONIN will discuss suggestions aimed at making the implementation of Law 7.232 even more liberal. However, Minister Renato Archer is inclined to advocate the continuation of interpretations which are more orthodox, at least in vital areas such as communications--precisely the sector which Minister Antonio Carlos Magalhaes wants to see subjected to more flexible criteria.

Article 3 of the informatics law considers telephone company switching exchanges to belong to the category of "informatics activity." Therefore, those telephone exchanges are covered by the market reserve stipulations which, among other restrictions, preclude the import of informatics equipment if similar equipment exists in Brazil. In the case of switching exchanges, companies are obligated to use equipment designed and developed by the research center of TELEBRAS [Brazilian Telecommunications, Inc]--the Tropico exchange--which, according to Minister Renato Archer, is prejudicial to interests protected by the previous regime. In this regard, Archer recalls that, in the past, the Ministry of Communications agreed to distribute the installation of telephone exchanges in Brazil among Ericson, Siemens and NEC, subsidiaries of powerful multinational companies, now forbidden to offer their equipment.

Intransigent Implementation

The minister of science and technology considers himself a "defender through conviction" of the present informatics policy and disputes the result of the intransigent implementation of its provisions. "In 1969 Brazil had only nine informatics companies. Of the nine, only three were national companies, and these three accounted for less than 2 percent of the market at that time, a market which amounted to \$200 million," Archer recalls. "The country now has 250 companies in that sector, only 10 of which are foreign and the national companies account for 50 percent of a market which amounts to \$2.8 billion."

"Basic Tool"

Despite the accelerated growth of the sector, Archer believes that it is still too early to think about ending the market reserve on which the informatics law has set a time limit of 8 years from last October. "Informatics," he points out, "is the basic tool which will enable Brazil to achieve its full scientific and technological development."

8568

CSO: 5500/2104

BRAZIL

ARCHER PROPOSES RIO AS SITE OF INFORMATICS CENTER

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 17 Aug 85 p 28

[Text] Rio de Janeiro--Renato Archer, minister of science and technology, said yesterday that Rio de Janeiro offers the best site for the installation of an informatics pool which will enliven the country's technological development in that sector. After attending a meeting at the headquarters of the Rio de Janeiro State Federation of Industries [FIERJ], the minister said that a proposal will be sent to the National Congress urging the establishment of tax incentives for companies which invest in science and technology.

Archer said that "the national informatics industry has already shown an annual growth of 40 percent without any investment by the government." In his evaluation, the minister did not include government investments in research, including Campinas.

"The government's action will be to draw the informatics industry closer to universities and research centers to facilitate interaction among those organizations," the minister said. He pointed out that the development of informatics in Campinas occurred in large part "due to the proximity of universities and research centers." He said that he considers it essential to have close ties among universities, research institutions and companies so that "national development in the informatics sector may be naturally enlivened."

The minister of science and technology defended the participation of the FIERJ in the committee set up by his ministry to examine forms of subsidy to companies which invest in research.

According to Archer, ministry experts are studying a proposal to be submitted to the president of the republic and subsequently forwarded to Congress "which will benefit companies which invest in scientific research and technology."

Special Aptitude

The Ministry of Science and Technology is inclined to hold meetings with business people of Sao Paulo, the pioneer state in the informatics sector,

through the Technical Institute of Aeronautics (ITA), with projects for the country's development in that sector stimulated by university head Tercio Pacetti.

Arthur Joao Donato, president of the FIERJ, who attended the businessmen's meeting with Archer, said that "the future of the economic and social development of Rio de Janeiro State offers sufficient reason for its leaders to convert the state into a major technological center."

8568

CSO: 5500/2104

7 October 1985

CUBA

CUBANS 'REJECT' RADIO MARTI

AU291524 Moscow PROBLEMY MIRA I SOTSIALIZMA in Russian No 8, Aug 85 (Signed to Press 8 Jul 85) pp 80-81

[Commentary by Raul Valdes Vivo, member of the Central Committee Politburo of the Communist Party of Cuba: "Rejecting 'Goebbels' Radio'"]

[Text] The Cubans, and not only them but also all Latin Americans and all honest people on the planet received with indignation the news about the beginning of broadcasts against the Island of Freedom by a special radio station operating under the aegis of Voice of America.

It is important to point out that this radio station's studios and transmitters do not belong to counterrevolutionary emigres but represent an official mouthpiece of the U.S. Information Agency. Precisely in the current financial year this agency has allotted more than \$11 million for the needs of the diversionist radio station. As has been stated by the White House, the appropriations for this purpose will be significantly increased in the future. The total number of workers engaged in the station's operations has been set at 178 and its daily programs have been set at 14 hours of broadcasting time.

The initiator of this aggressive project, the Reagan administration--with its characteristic cynicism that can only be compared to the recent laying of flowers at the graves of Nazi criminals--has blasphemously named this pirate radio station after J. Marti, that is, taking the name of the glorious revolutionary which is sacred to every citizen of my fatherland. And the Cuban people have accurately nicknamed it "Goebbels radio" because what is involved is an organ of imperialist propaganda, a disseminator of vile fabrications, slanders, and misinformation.

Despite objections by Congress, owners of radio broadcasting corporations, and sober-minded public circles, the North American authorities have continued their efforts to set up a subversive anti-Cuban radio broadcast center for a number of years. But the air debut of this radio station on 20 May this year was nevertheless unexpected. For, prior to that time, the first steps had been made to ease the tension between Cuba and the United States and, in particular, the agreements on immigration had been concluded. (As is known, a quarter of a century ago relations between Havana and Washington reached zero point, that is, they were broken in every respect through Washington's fault.)

The question inevitably arises: Why has the White House so suddenly cut off the way to normalization?

As our government has reasonably pointed out the only possible answer to this question is found in the aspiration to create an atmosphere of tension around Cuba and divert attention from its just proposals on the problem of foreign debts that sit as a heavy burden on the backs of Latin America and other states of the "Third World." The United States insists that the Latin Americans should consent to bear without a murmur the deepening economic crisis, hunger, and poverty, subordinate themselves to the IMF's dictate, and pay monstrous interest rates. The IMF invariably and persistently promotes projects that inevitably lead to bloodshed and the suppression of angry protests of the poor populace, as, for instance, the events in the Dominican Republic have shown.

Havana has told the truth about the real state of affairs through the statement by Comrade F. Castro. The debts which virtually cannot be liquidated have in fact already been met with interest because for many decades imperialism has mercilessly plundered the nations living south of the Rio Grande. Attracting West European capital with high interest rates, the United States is at the same time appropriating for itself the resources that belong to us. This is achieved through the collection of debts and through the colossal profits gained by transnational corporations from an overexploitation of the working people.

Washington persistently pursues its brigand-like policy because, in absorbing an enormous mass of foreign resources, this policy makes it possible to finance the unrestrained arms race that is now aimed at the militarization of outer space within the framework of the infamous "Star Wars" program.

Cuba has expressed the demands of the peoples pressed down by the weight of heavy debts, demands which are understood by all peace-loving mankind, that is, demands that the creditor states assume the obligation of paying their banks by reducing their excessively exaggerated militarist budgets.

This then is the real background of the decision to launch the operations of the subversive radio broadcast center.

However, the appearance of "Goebbels radio" on the air is not only an anti-Cuban action. It also serves the policy of state terrorism pursued by Washington and its plans for direct intervention in Central America to suppress the heroic people of Nicaragua who have risen in defense of the Sandinist revolution, and the patriots of El Salvador who are waging a victorious liberation struggle. Therefore, it is by no means an accident that during the very first program of the station the microphone was given to one of the Nicaragua counterrevolutionaries, and the U.S. aggression against Grenada is daily extolled in the station's programs.

The choice of the date for the "first night" of the subversive radio broadcast center is also very indicative. The question is: Since Reagan has named the

newly concocted radio station after Marti, why then did the station make its debut on 20 May and not a day earlier when the 90th anniversary of the death of our national hero in battle was observed?

This was because his [Marti's] views are far from the views preached by the poisoner of the airwaves. On the eve of his death when he was surrounded by Spanish troops, the brilliant prophet Marti wrote down the following warning in his political testament that is known as the "Letter to Manuel Mercado": In the final analysis the United States is the main enemy of Cuba's independence. Everything that I have done, he noted, serves the single goal of not allowing the establishment of U.S. domination over the republics of our America. "What is involved is a matter of life or death. And a mistake would be disastrous." (Footnote 1) (J. Marti: "Obras Escogidas, Vol. 3, Havana, 1981, p 577. Unmasking in his message to Mercado, who held a high government position in Mexico, the ambitious plans of North American imperialism and issuing a warning about their consequences, J. Marti wanted thereby to call that country's attention to these plans.)

This is why 19 May turned out to be unsuitable for launching the twin station of Radio "Free Europe."

But, nevertheless, why then was 20 May picked for that purpose? It was on that day in 1902 that the neocolonial Cuban republic was proclaimed after Washington had succeeded in imposing on our country the shackling obligations that limited its sovereignty. This by no means signified a triumph of the ideals that over a period of 30 years continuously inspired the two-million people of the island in their struggle against the 300,000 strong army of the Spanish crown. As is known, the United States unleashed history's first imperialist war to seize Cuba, Puerto Rico, the Philippines, and other overseas properties of Spain that was then in a state of decline.

The master of the White House picked 20 May because he wanted to emphasize that his sympathies are with the Cuba of the shameful past, the Cuba where oppression and class, race, and other forms of discrimination were dominant, a country that carried no weight in the world. And this is what Washington is longing for, for a Cuba where the Uncle Sam's ambassador would be boss of everything and where the foreign monopolies would act as masters of the most fertile lands, of mines and banks, of telephone and electric power companies, that is, of virtually all the resources of our fatherland. For a Cuba that can be threatened with invasion from the territory of the forcibly occupied Guantanamo base at the slightest hint of any desire to gain independence.

However, new Cuba is completely free, independent, and sovereign and will continue to be so. Its peoples are fully resolved to protect their country, they enjoy the boundless support of the socialist community and the solidarity of all progressive forces on earth. Our people reject with contempt the "Goebbels radio" that is synonymous with impudent and malicious lies.

The Cuba of Marti and Fidel is invincible!

CSO: 1807/491

DOMINICA

GOVERNMENT ENDS BROADCASTS OF PARLIAMENT; OPPOSITION OBJECTS

Kingson THE DAILY GLEANER in English 20 Aug 85 p 17

[Text]

Roseau, Dominica, Aug 16, Cana

The Dominica government's decision to end an eight-year-old practice of broadcasting live on radio the debates of parliament has angered the official opposition here.

In fact the Dominica Labour Party (DLP), which has five of the 21 seats in the house, says it's preparing to mount an island-wide campaign to pressure the Eugenia Charles administration to change its mind.

The government's decision came home forcibly to the DLP Wednesday when, following Monday's live broadcast of the 1985 budget presented to parliament by Prime Minister Eugenia Charles, it was announced that the opposition's reply would be recorded and carried later on the state-run Dominica Broadcasting Corporation.

Government officials are saying that the budget presentation should not been seen as something politically partisan, but as more of a national policy statement. But the DLP is demanding equal treatment with the ruling Dominica Freedom Party (DFP), which was returned to power for a second five year term in July 1 general elections here.

Last month Prime Minister Charles told reporters her party would be submitting to the parliamentary broadcast committee, when it is appointed, a resolution calling for the curtailing the live broadcasting of parliamentary debates.

"Our party is taking the line that the entire proceedings of the house should not be broadcast live. It is something only Dominica does. I will suggest that to the parliamentary committee when it is appointed," she said then.

The committee, set up by legislation in 1974, is made of up the speaker of parliament, the attorney general or a member of his staff, the public relations officer of the government, and two elected parliamentarians, appointed by the house from among the parties represented therein.

The opposition is charging that since no new parliamentary committee has yet been formed for this current sitting of parliament, the DLP should have been afforded the same live broadcast privilege as Prime Minister Charles in the budget presentation.

"I want to warn you, we don't know at this point in time where the end of this thing is going to be," declared an angry DLP leader Michael Douglas at a public meeting here last night.

"One thing I can promise Eugenia Charles; while this labour party has the mandate given to it by 13,000 Dominicans this labour party will defend vigorously the rights of parliamentarians to be heard live over DBS radio," added Douglas, who is parliamentary opposition leader.

The opposition stormed out of parliament Wednesday at the start of the budget debate after being told that the radio station would not be carrying the proceedings live.

The broadcasting legislation also declares that the radio station could only carry live broadcasts of parliament under "conditions laid down by the [word indistinct]."

Mrs Charles says it is thought to be a better (move) to have programmes made of the parliamentary proceedings and broadcast them the same evening on the state-owned radio. This has already been started.

But the opposition is adamant that live broadcast of political debates continues and has been talking in fighting terms.

During Thursday night's DLP public meeting almost all the speakers repeatedly urged Dominicans to "be prepared to make sacrifices."

Said opposition leader Douglas: "The rights we are fighting for are not rights for the opposition. These rights are the rights of all of us, and all of us must be expected to defend those rights."

The DLP has not stated clearly what form its protest will take, though party officials have on a number of occasions hinted at the possibility of mass demonstrations in the capital.

Prime Minister Charles is not perturbed: In a democratic society persons have the right to demonstrate, she told reporters.

"The only thing we have to do is to make sure the demonstrations are peaceful."

CSO: 3298/988

MEXICO

MORELOS I SATELLITE BEGINS OPERATIONS 29 AUG

PA060433 Mexico City EL NACIONAL in Spanish 30 Aug 85 p 3

[Article by Miguel Angel Duran G.]

[Text] The functioning of the Morelos I satellite will save 2 billion pesos annually. This was the sum paid to lease the Intelsat 5 F-8 satellite, which is used to communicate with the interior of the country.

This statement was made by Javier Jimenez Espriu, undersecretary of telecommunications and technological development at the SCT [Secretariat of Communications and Transportation], who was interviewed after the first Morelos I satellite transmission.

Jimenez Espriu said that these savings will be allotted to the acquisition of our special telecommunications technology.

He said that since 1200 yesterday, Mexico ceased using the Intelsat services, but only for internal communications because in the international sphere there are rules that prevent this.

With the Morelos I satellite, yesterday Mexico entered a new phase of communications and as of this moment organizations with installations to receive and transmit signals have begun operating, said Jimenez Espriu.

"Yesterday's intercommunication in which Communications and Transportation Secretary Daniel Diaz Diaz and Michoacan Governor Cuauhtemoc Cardenas Solorzano participated via television, was proof that we already have the technology that we need," he said.

Morelos System, State Property

The Morelos satellite system is state property according to the laws of the political Constitution of the United States of Mexico, noted Jimenez Espriu.

"Utilization of the satellite will not be leased to anyone, as in the case of the services offered by the Secretariat through telecommunications," he insisted.

He also said that there will not be a change in the general policies of national communication, and stressed that the second phase of the Morelos Satellite System will be completed because its total cost has been paid.

This means that budget cuts will not in any way affect the completion of our own satellite system next November, he said. However, within the next 10 years Mexico must work within its capabilities and needs in order to purchase other special equipment, because this is the life span of the modern communications systems in operation since yesterday.

Taxes Will Not Increase

The undersecretary of telecommunications and technological development said that there will not be a tax increase for services to the people via satellite.

Nevertheless, he made it clear that according to the law taxes must be adjusted to conform to the movements of the nation's economy.

CSO: 5500/2107

ST LUCIA

MINISTER OF INFORMATION EXPLAINS BROADCAST POLICY

Carries THE WEEKEND VOICE in English 17 Aug 85 p 2

[Letter to the Editor]

[Excerpt]

Ministry I consider it my duty to motivate my staff and the public at large to accept greater responsibility for the development of the country.

The difference between the UWP Government and the short lived SLP Government is this — whereas the UWP

Government promotes a positive public image the SLP Government was noted for its negative and destructive public image which greatly affected St. Lucia both at home and abroad.

The former Government used the media to destabilise and divide the nation while the UWP Government wisely utilises the media to reunite and inspire the nation.

We need now T.V. equipment not to promote the Minister of Information or for that matter any particular

Minister — we need T.V. equipment to continue the process of meaningfully informing and educating the public. By the way, all Government Ministers have equal access to the media.

As regards equipment for Radio St. Lucia (RSL) — UNESCO continues to assist RSL with training and equipment. RSL Board of Directors will tell you that efforts are continuing to upgrade the system.

Since May 1982 — the Ministry of Information has spared no efforts in improving the quality and content of both Q.I.S. and RSL programming. New

programme features have been introduced and our very latest survey indicates that more people (including Mr. Brice) listen to both Q.I.S. and RSL. I am reasonably satisfied that in time, both radio and T.V. will be fully reflective of the hopes and aspirations of our developing nation.

RSL and Q.I.S. are intended to inform and educate the community and as Minister for Information I am committed towards this goal.

This Government will never use the media to encourage hatred and disorder, we will not use the radio and T.V. to hurl insults at our colleagues as was done daily by the SLP Ministers.

This Government will not arbitrarily order the closure of a Radio Station (remember — the closure of Radio Caribbean by a former Minister in 1980).

As Minister for Information and Broadcasting I am satisfied that the Government's new look positive image has helped to improve St. Lucia's overall image both here and away, thus providing a stable environment for the continued social and economic development of the country.

Notwithstanding Mr. Brice's unfortunate criticism, I will continue to push ahead for St. Lucia.

Romanus Lansiquot
MINISTER

ALGERIA

BRIEFS

TV RELAY STATIONS INSTALLED--In Algeria, the RTA [Algerian Radio and TV] carried out the installation of seven new television relay stations during the month of August. These stations will help to improve the quality of broadcasting of programs in the central and eastern areas of the country, both in terms of the regularity of transmission and the quality of the picture. The new stations which each have a strength of 10 watts, have been installed in the areas of Jijel, Guelma, Batna, Skikda, M'sila, and Tizi Ouzou. [Text]
[Algiers Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 13 Sep 85 LD]

CSO: 5500/4613

BANGLADESH

REPORTER WRITES OF TROUBLES WITH TELEPHONE SYSTEM

Dhaka THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 23 Aug 85 pp 1, 8

[Article by Shehabuddin Ahmed]

[Text] Cross connection, wrong numbers, absence of dial tone, failure to connect the desired number, overbilling late arrival of bills and inconvenience to pay them have become the normal feature of the telephone service in the country.

Instead of functioning as an utility the telephone has become a troublesome apparatus for some, because of the varied problems it presents.

Although the Telephone and Telegraph Board (T&T) officials maintain that most complaints like overbilling, wrong numbers etc. are not correct there are some problems like cross-connection which may continue because of overused system functioning with a mixture of vintage and now obsolete equipment.

The officials said that such troubles would continue to beset the telephone system so long it was not overhauled and its equipment were modernised.

Often exasperated subscribers find their desired numbers are answered by equally angry persons because of wrong connections.

Sometimes it becomes difficult to connect numbers between two exchanges. Occasionally one subscriber talking with another finds others talking on the same line.

The woes of telephone subscribers do not end with only such problems. Feeble sounds, or disturbances, sudden disconnections are other aspects that irks the subscribers.

Besides it would be difficult to provide connections to at least 50 thousand people waiting for telephone connections.

In addition to 24 thousand lines in the central exchange the T&T needs to provide at least 30 thousand lines immediately to cater to the demands of the commercial subscribers, In Gulshan Exchange area it has only 700 lines but there is demand for 5,000 more. Another 2000 lines are needed in Mirpu in

addition to 2,000 already existing. In Narayanganj 4,000 more lines are needed in addition to the present 4,000 lines.

During the next two years 2,000 more lines will be provided to new subscribers under Sher-e-Bangla Nagar Exchange area and only 3,000 out of 6000 would get connections from the Maghbazar Exchange he noted.

But the problems of the subscribers would not be over as installations of more phones without balancing and modernising is carried out, the official said.

CSO: 5550/0168

BANGLADESH

POOR STATE OF TELECOM SERVICE IN BRAHMANBARIA NOTED

Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 10 Sep 85 p 7

[Text]

BRAHMANBARIA, Sept. 9.—Brahmanbaria, an important district headquarters and a commercial centre, is facing multifarious problems owing to unsatisfactory telecommunication service and troubles in the underground cables established in 1952-53. The workout cables have not yet been replaced.

The trade and commerce, the maintenance of Law and Order and the sending of important news items by the Local Journalists in particular have been hampered.

The Brahmanbaria Telephone Exchange which has 630 lines frequently fails to give trunk connections with Dhaka and other places of the country. If anybody gets connection luckily he cannot talk easily owing to line disturbances and feeble sounds.

It is learnt that the Government sanctioned Taka two crores for laying of new cables in Brahmanbaria in 1984-85 but the scheme now seems to be shelved. Many people applied for new connections but the authority of

Brahmanbaria Telephone Exchange refused to give new connections due to the nonavailability of the underground cables.

The T and T Board has introduced Nation wide Dialling (NWD)

system connecting Dhaka with many newly established districts. But it is surprising to note that Brahmanbaria has not yet been connected with NWD. For want of direct dialling system, the businessmen, the officials, the local Journalists and the public in general suffer a lot.

Besides, whenever the newsmen go to the local Telegraph office for sending important dispatches to different national dailies in Dhaka, the simple reply comes from Telegraph office that the line is out of order. The alternative line to Dhaka via Comilla also goes out of order off and on. The establishment of teleprinter service is urgently needed for Brahmanbaria district, it is felt.

The people hope that the T and T Board would do the needful to connect Brahmanbaria with NWD circuit and to install the teleprinter service to remove the snags in the telecommunication service in Brahmanbaria.

CSO: 5550/0173

BANGLADESH

BRIEFS

TELEPHONE EXPANSION PLAN--Jessore, Aug. 24: An ambitious programme has been undertaken for the expansion and development of eight telephone exchanges under Jessore tele-communication region during the current financial year. Six new auto-exchange would be commissioned while two more would be expanded under the programme. The present manual exchanges of Jhenidah, Meherpur and Narail would be transformed into 400 lines auto-exchange by June 1986 while Alamdanga, Bheramara and Jhikargacha exchanges would be transformed into 200 line auto-exchange by October this year. Another 200 lines would be added to Chuandanga and Satkhira auto-exchange. Besides another 300 lines has already been added to Jessore telephone exchange to make it 1900 from 1600 lines for facilitation of telephone subscribers of this region. It may be mentioned here that all machineries and equipment of these expansion were manufactured by Bangladesh Telephone Shilpa Sangstha and local technicians installed the machinery. [Text] [Dhaka THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 25 Aug 85 p 2]

CSO: 5550/0169

EGYPT

BRIEFS

NEW MARITIME COMMUNICATIONS STATION--The Telephones Authority signed an agreement this week with a Japanese company, by virtue of which the latter will provide a ground station for maritime communication and supervise it as well, said an official source at the Telecommunication Authority. The new station will make it possible to exchange communications with ships in the Atlantic Ocean, the Red Sea, the Mediterranean and the Arab Gulf. [Text]
[Cairo THE EGYPTIAN GAZETTE in English 29 Aug 85 p 3]

CSO: 5500/4612

INDIA

SHORTCOMINGS IN INDIAN TELEGRAPH SERVICE DISCUSSED

Madras THE HINDU in English 5 Sep 85 p 24

[Article by C. V. Gopalakrishnan]

[Text]

OFFICIAL announcements on the Government's plans for the modernisation of telecommunication services in India focus almost exclusively on the telephone to the near-total neglect of the telegraph. Telegraph engineers drew attention to this indifference during their recent discussions with Mr. Ramnivas Mirdha, Union Minister of State for Communications, on the modernisation of telegraph services during the Seventh Plan.

Telephone availability today works out to just 0.4 per cent of the country's population and it will call for a herculean effort to step up this figure even up to 10 per cent by the end of this century. The telephone cannot, therefore, meet the demands for quick message transmission from the bulk of the population which depends heavily on the telegraph for this purpose. What kind of service is the country getting from the Telegraphs Department?

It is possible that the familiar sight of the staff at the telegraph offices getting down to tap Morse instruments or on a teleprinter immediately on their accepting a message for transmission has spread the illusion that the message goes straight to its destination. This hardly happens. If the message is received at a small combined office (CO) entrusted with both postal and telegraphic functions, it has to be routed to the Departmental Telegraph Office (DTO) where it is analysed for its destination and has to go to another CO or DTO before it reaches its destination. The average number of transit points it has to go through has been worked out at 2.6.

Transit messages

The transit messages handled at any telegraph office in the country average between 30,000 and 40,000. Telegrams having to take their places at transit points in such serpentine queues have to wait much longer for their onward journey than what even this frightening number implies because of staff absenteeism. When the telegrams finally make it to the city telegraph offices at the destination, the waiting

does not end. At the destination points, if they happen to be big towns, the incoming telegrams are received at the city telegraph offices which have to transmit them to the local telegraph offices for delivery. Heavy telegraph traffic resulting in congestion of and interruptions to local circuits oblige the authorities to resort to messenger delivery of the telegrams from the central to the local telegraph offices.

The number of telegrams delivered by messengers from the central to the local telegraph offices in the four metropolitan cities during the three months—January, February and March 1985, according to the figures given by the Communications Ministry is as follows:

	January	February	March
New Delhi	79,903	89,630	70,433
Bombay	1,42,406	1,64,864	1,98,314
Calcutta	47,511	43,197	48,217
Madras	47,505	61,675	47,806

Unconscionable delays

With the telegraph service seeming to have sunk into a stone age, it is hardly surprising that the transmission and delivery of telegrams suffer from unconscionable delays.

A great deal of attention has been paid to the question of giving the telegraph service a contemporary, late twentieth century look. The first step towards modernisation of the service for making transmission of telegrams as efficient as it should be is to understand why it is not so at present. The requisites for making the service efficient are that there should be (i) operators always available at the despatching and receiving telegraph offices for handling the telegrams and (ii) the line is free from interruptions. Very rarely has it been possible to ensure that these conditions are met.

Among the reasons why the service which the public is getting from the far-flung combined offices all over the country numbering over 30,000 (this should have gone up to over 50,000 if the Government's planned addition of another 20,000 offices during the Sixth Plan had materialised) is that the staff in these offices have to attend to both postal and telegraphic duties.

The Telegraph Enquiry Committee set up by the Government in 1958 took note of the burden thrown on the staff in the combined offices and recommended that all the offices where an average of 80 telegraph messages were handled every day should be separated from the postal duties in the first stage and steps should be taken immediately for the modernisation of the service. It further suggested that in the second stage, staff handling 40 messages should be relieved of their postal functions. These recommendations were not implemented and the service at the combined offices continued to be poor with overworked staff.

The Sarin committee on Telecommunications in its report submitted in 1982 also recommended the setting up of exclusive telegraph offices in all offices where the number of telegrams handled was more than 300 a day. Though this recommendation has been accepted, exclusive telegraph offices have so far been provided only at places where the number of telegrams handled exceeds 500 a day—which is still a number far higher than it should be.

Semi-automatic exchange

The next step for speeding up the telegram relates to minimising interruptions in transmission and the choking up of the telegraph lines. Efforts at providing technology inputs into the telegraph service date back to 1957 when a

semi-automatic tape relay exchange (TRX) supplied by Siemens working on the continuous tape principle was installed in the Bombay Central Telegraph office. It held out great promise at the time and a number of circuits were connected to the TRX. But the hope that the TRX by ensuring continuous transmission of messages would bring about expeditious delivery of telegrams, was not realised. The reasons given for the failure are that the staff were insufficiently trained and the monitoring of the performance was poor.

The next step in modernisation was taken in 1975 when the Gentex service was introduced in Bombay and Delhi. This is a circuit switching system similar to the telex. The operator at the message originating station directly calls the destination telegraph office number to establish a direct two-way connection through one or more intermediate exchanges. The message is then transmitted direct to the destination. This also failed to meet the demands since the Gentex system is not found suitable for handling the large volume of traffic on the Indian telegraph network and the operative effort is very strenuous.

The operating time for a message is too long due to the many attempts which have to be made to establish a connection. The utilisation of the circuit is also poor since only one message is sent though a two-way circuit is available. It is also not suitable for multiple link connections because of the very low percentage of calls which materialise. The system does not provide for storage when there is circuit failure and there is an accumulation of messages at the originating stations.

Useful efforts

These two efforts at modernisation were instructive since they threw up ideas on the kind

of system which had to be designed. If the existing network could not meet the demands for continuous transmission of the huge volume of messages and got choked, the solution suggested was that electronic memory facilities should be pressed into service for the storage of messages which could not be put through immediately and would take their place in a queue for automatic clearance.

The capabilities of the system which should be rigged up to meet the demands of the telegraph service were examined during the latter half of 1980 by Mr. U. D. N. Rao who was then General Manager, Telecommunications Tamil Nadu Circle, with the State-owned Electronics Corporation of India (ECIL), Hyderabad, and with other organisations like the Computer Maintenance Corporation, and the D.C.M. On the basis of these discussions, the ECIL developed the Store and Forward Telegraph system (SFT 141) which was put to field trials in Madras in January 1982. The system became functional the next month and was installed on the line traffic. There are 30 SFT 141 systems now in operation in the country and more than 200 important telegraph offices have been brought into the SFT network. Forty more such units will soon be introduced on the telegraph network. A single SFT 141 system has 14 terminal points and can support as many telegraph offices.

SFT 141 has a single Intel 8085 microprocessor and is based on the VLSI (Very Large Scale Integrated circuitry) which has a memory which analyses and retransmits the messages. If there is any interruption in transmission, the system stores the message in its memory and forwards the same immediately on restoration of the line. It also provides for a supervisory visual unit to correct occasional human errors in the messages received from the connected telegraph offices.

Outright import

Has the SFT 141 lived up to the demands of the Telegraphs Department for modernisation of telegram transmission? The meetings which the telegraph officers recently had with Mr. Mirdeha were intended to focus attention on the deficiencies of SFT 141. Some of the officers are of the view that the Government would be wiser to make an outright import of at least 20 units embodying a state-of-the-art technology than asking the ECIL to go in for a technology upgradation with a suitable foreign party.

Dissatisfaction with SFT 141 relates to its transmission of messages, its capabilities for storage and subsequent retrieval of messages from the memory. It has also been pointed out that the operational problems which have led to dissatisfaction with the system were the result of the system having been designed and developed without a thorough understanding of what was expected from it. A comment from the ECIL that SFT 141 was designed exactly for the P & T specifications also seems to imply that if the system is not performing as well as it should be, the P & T should take the responsibility for having "specified" something which did not measure up to what it had in mind.

The perceptions of the performance of SFT 141 by the telegraph officers and by the ECIL are naturally influenced by the former's expectations as the users and the latter's views on how the system should be handled, as its manufacturers. The telegraph officers have said that the SFT 141's maximum permissible 64 K bytes RAM (Random Access Memory) could not be increased without impairing the capability of the microprocessor. This limitation, it is stated, imposes a disability in view of the fact that 40 K bytes of the memory is required for the system programme and data buffers for the printer and the visual display unit leaving 24 K bytes for storing in-transit messages.

The average length of a telegram is 293 characters and a maximum of 70 messages of such length can be held in the in-transit memory. When the terminal works at 50 bauds and when the feeding of the messages into the system is manual, at the rate of 30 messages an hour, about 40 messages are floating in the in-transit memory. But when the speed of some of the channels increases to 300 bauds, even a small interruption on these high baud channels can result in a system crash and the time available for the supervisor to notice and close the channel by a supervisory command will be inadequate.

The ECIL does not believe that the SFT 141 suffers from such a disability and disputes almost all that the telegraph officers complain of. It points out that the 64 K bytes RAM is not limited by the Intel 8085 microprocessor's capability. It also denies that the system would crash even from a small interruption in the high baud channels. Since the telegraph officers have not given specific cases where the system has crashed, it appears that their misgivings arise more from fears than from actual breakdowns.

The ECIL also draws attention to the SFT 141's capability for monitoring traffic levels and to "dump" excessive messages piling up in the high speed channels into a 10 megabyte back-up disc. This disc automatically detects interruptions in any channel and alerts the supervisor. The ECIL had earlier offered to provide automatic identification of the interruptions either as a long or a short term failure but the P & T wanted this to be done personally by a supervisor.

Fears about the system's vulnerability cannot, however, be dismissed as being entirely groundless since the ECIL itself has mentioned that during the past two years which had seen 30 units of SFT 141 operating in different centres, there had been failures in Hyderabad, Calcutta and Agra. It is possible to design a system which ensures against its present drawbacks but this will have to be done in consultation with the P & T which opted for the present system as it is simple and inexpensive.

The ECIL also points out that the distortion of telegraphic messages resulted more from the vulnerability of the transmission media than from anything else. The solution would be to intersperse the network with more SFT units

which will reduce the length of the transmission lines. The system, however, needs uninterrupted power supply though it provides for protection of the memory in the event of power supply failure.

Import costly

As for the demand for the outright import of 20 units of a system embodying more advanced technology, the ECIL says that the Telegraph Department would not be able to put these imported units into the network straightway and there is no assurance that they would work better than SFT 141. This could be seen from the three years which the Overseas Communications Service took to instal and operate the message retransmission system which it bought from Hastler of Switzerland. The cost of the Hastler system is Rs. 1 crore as against the Rs. 7 lakhs for the 14-line SFT 141 of ECIL and four such systems which would be equivalent to the Hastler system would cost not more than Rs. 28 lakhs.

Though the telegraph officers are critical of the performance of SFT 141, their views are not shared by the General Managers, Telecommunications in Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh where the system is in operation. The ECIL's stand that the system has stood up to the demands made on it is by and large endorsed by them. Nevertheless the system has to be strengthened in the light of the lessons learnt from its three-year record.

An important question for consideration relates to the preparedness of the telegraph staff for the demands which a faster pace of modernisation would throw upon them. For instance, the telegraph officers have said that the four-character code in the SFT 141 is inadequate. The ECIL's reply to this is that while it could have provided a six or eight-character code, it was advised to limit itself to the four-character code by the P & T, since it did not wish to put a greater burden on the telegraphists. The department, it appears, did not wish to go much faster than what its staff could accept in a store and forward system and wanted the system to be simple and inexpensive. The department has also to reckon with the fact that a computer culture has yet to grow among the staff. At present the SFT system is maintained by the ECIL and SFT operations inevitably are delayed in the event of faults or breakdowns as the telegraph offices have to wait for the arrival of ECIL technicians.

Its record of performance during the last three years should have made both the Telegraph Department and the ECIL wiser on where technology upgradation is called for. Two foreign experts, Mr. Chauvin of Sofracom of France and Mr. R. E. Nithack of West Germany engaged by the Union Communications Ministry have also advised the Government on this and other matters relating to telecommunications. When the SFT network expands and makes transmission of messages more efficient, telegrams should arrive faster than they do now.

INDIA

BRIEFS

INDIGENOUS DIGITAL PABX--Bangalore, September 1: The Union minister of state for communications, Mr. Ram Niwas Mirdha, has said here that the country had to go in for fibre optics technology in a big way to improve the telecommunications transmission network. Inaugurating the indigenous digital 128-line PABX developed by the centre for development of telematics (C-DOT), Mr. Mirdha remarked that similar improvements were also called for in the subscribers' network and telephones. The government was working out the modalities of private sector participation in the manufacture of switching equipment. An electronic switching unit at Gonda in Uttar Pradesh had already started production. Dr. Sanjeeva Rao, chairman of the electronics commission, said that 18 private manufacturers had been licensed to produce PABX systems under the government's liberalised policy. Three collaborative ventures with multinational firms had also approved. Mr. Thomas Kora, secretary of the department of telecommunications, said the demand for PABXs was more than 60,000 lines per year and, therefore, liberalisation for its manufacture was necessary. [Text] [Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 2 Sep 85 p 6]

MADHYA PRADESH TV TRANSMITTER--A low-power TV transmitter was commissioned at Korba in Madhya Pradesh today. This is the 176th television relay transmitter center in the country. It has a range of 25 km and will cover about 350,000 population of the area. [Excerpt] [Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 13 Sep 85 BK]

TELEX EXCHANGE--The first indigenously manufactured electronic telex exchange was commissioned today by the minister of communications, Mr. Ram Niwas Mirdha, at Nizamabad in Andhra Pradesh. It has been designed and developed by the public sector Indian Telephone Industry, Bangalore. [Text] [Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 8 Sep 85 BK]

CSO: 5500/4746

DJIBOUTI

INTELSAT PHONE LINK REPORTED

AB191919 Paris AFP in French 1535 GMT 16 Sep 85

[Text] Djibouti, 16 Sep (AFP) — Direct telephone links between Djibouti and about 30 foreign countries are henceforth possible thanks to the launching of an international telephone exchange in Djibouti on Sunday, Radio Djibouti announced on Monday. This transit exchange has 23 fully automatic outgoing circuits and 18 incoming circuits. France, Kenya, Saudi Arabia, Greece, Italy, Kuwait, the United Kingdom, the United States, and Singapore are now among the countries which are directly linked to Djibouti by telephone.

Direct links are now effective through a telecommunication satellite "Intelsat". The international telephone traffic will continue throughout 1986 until the launching of the Arab telecommunications satellite "Arabsat", and of the submarine cable which will link Marseilles (southern France) to Colombo (Sri Lanka), particularly through Jeddah (Saudi Arabia) and Djibouti.

It is a French company, the General Company for Telephone Construction, CGCT, that constructed the international telephone exchange which cost F35 million. The Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development (FADES) and the National Bank of Paris (BNP) had granted a F23 million loan to the Posts and Telecommunications Corporation (OPT) of Djibouti while the remaining 12 million were provided by the OPT's own funds.

CSO: 5500/199

GHANA

JAPANESE GRANT TO UPGRADE RADIO, TV

AB201758 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 20 Sep 85

[Text] An agreement under which the Japanese Government is to grant \$3.6 million to Ghana for the rehabilitation of the Ghana Broadcasting Corporation, GBC, radio and television was signed in Accra today. The secretary for the interior, Mr Kofi Djin, and the Japanese ambassador in Ghana, Mr Kazuaki Arichi, signed the agreement on behalf of their countries. This is the third grant which has been given by Japan this year to be used to improve the technical standard of radio and television. Speaking at the ceremony, Mr Djin, who is acting foreign secretary, said the grant is yet another demonstration of the continued interest of Japan in the cultural and economic development of Ghana. He observed that Ghana is a major beneficiary of Japanese aid in Africa, and thanked the Japanese Government for the concrete evidence it has given, and its continued support for the development of the country.

The secretary said the role of broadcasting in social change, especially in Ghana, cannot be over-emphasized, and noted that the GBC in its 50 years of existence, has played an important role in the society by informing, educating, and mobilizing the people for progress and development.

Replying, Mr Arichi hoped the agreement would contribute to the accomplishment of the whole project, to enable the GBC to enjoy more efficient and comprehensive broadcasting.

Work on the new GBC radio transmitters was completed in May this year with Japanese assistance, and it is expected that the Northern Microwave Project which is also being financed by the Japanese Government, will soon be completed. The director general of the GBC, Mr Fiifi Hessey, said the equipment for the first agreement are expected in the country sometime next month, and the installation will be completed early next year. He said those under the second agreement will be delivered by November this year.

CSO: 5500/201

TANZANIA

PUBLIC PRINTING FIRMS HAVING DIFFICULTIES

Dar es Salaam DAILY NEWS in English 5 Sep 85 p 1

[Article by Habbi Gunze]

[Text] Public printing firms in Dar es Salaam are finding it difficult to keep a smooth flow of newsprint from the Southern Paper Mills (SPM) in Mufindi, Iringa Region, because of liquidity problems.

In an interview with the DAILY NEWS this week, officials of the National Printing Company (Kiuta) and Printpak (Tanzania) Limited, both leading consumers of newsprint, said they had difficulties in getting paper from SPM in the absence of credit facilities for the materials ordered.

The Printpak General Manager, Ndugu Obed Kitilya, said his firm had difficulties in getting newsprint from SPM. "They want us to pay in advance, but we don't have the necessary money to buy all the newsprint we need," he added.

Printpak are the printers of the Government-owned newspapers, the DAILY NEWS and the SUNDAY NEWS while Kiuta are the printers of the Party-owned newspapers, UHURU and MZALENDU.

When contacted on the issue, the Kiuta General Manager, Ndugu Eberhard Kusaga, said his firm was in a financial quagmire because the newspapers owed Kiuta over 50m/-.

However, the Printpak General Manager said besides millions of shillings owed the company by both public and private clients, the liquidity problem was compounded by the high rate of sales tax imposed by the Government on the SPM newsprint.

Ndugu Kitilya said the price of newsprint from SPM without sales tax was 22,500/- per tonne. He said the price inclusive of a 25 percent sales tax was 28,125/- per tonne.

It was a problem for Printpak to buy the newsprint in cash because even its customers did not pay in cash, he said. He suggested that SPM could, at least, give public customers a grace period of 90 days after delivery of the material to enable them pay for every order made.

Printpak and Kiuta require 150 tonnes of newsprint worth 4.5 m/- every month for printing the DAILY NEWS and SUNDAY NEWS; UHURU and MZALENDU, respectively.

Ndugu Kusaga said Kiuta had introduced a new business package deal for small private publishers to pay 100 percent advance for their orders while public institutions pay 50 percent advance of the total printing costs.

Ndugu Kusaga said that the move was aimed at improving the current liquidity problem of the company.

The 2.5bn/- plant started trial runs in May, this year, and supplied the first consignment of the newsprint to the Party and Government owned newspapers for trial test in mid-May.

Commercial production of the plant started in June, but was interrupted by a breakdown of some of its machinery towards the end of June. Before the breakdown, the plant was working non-stop for 24 hours, producing an average of 50 tonnes of newsprint daily.

The plant has an installed capacity of producing, initially, 60,000 tonnes of paper annually.

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